Norms for Disposal of bio-Medical Waste by Hospitals in Delhi

3682. PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR:
SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have laid down any norms for the disposal of bio-medical waste by the hospitals in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study has been made to assess the extent to which these norms are being implemented by Government hospitals and dispensaries in Delhi;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by Government where the hospitals/dispensaries have failed to implement the norms laid down for the disposal of bio-medical waste?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Ministry of Environment & Forests has notified Bio-Medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998 in July, 1998 laying down the norms for safe disposal of hospital waste. The said Rules give in detail the procedure to be adopted for treatment and disposal of hospital bio-medical waste, as well as the method for segregation packaging, transportation and storage etc.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. On the direction of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, the Central Pollution Control Board has carried out inspection of ten hospitals of Delhi during February -March, 2001 and the recommendations are:-

1. All the incinerators should be equipped with adequate air pollution control device (s).
2. The hospital authorities should ensure the prescribed temperature in the secondary chamber of the incinerators,
3. Proper operation & maintenance of the incinerator should be ensured.
4. Prohibition of scavengers/regpickers in the hospitals should be strictly followed to check the recycling of untreated infected disposables/plastics from the hospitals.

5. Log book should be maintained for the quantities of the waste incinerated, duration of operation of incinerator, temperatures attained in both the chambers, etc.

6. The incinerators should be operated by the skilled operator who has the know-how and training for the operation of the incinerator.

7. Proper hygiene should be maintained in and around the incinerator room & waste storage area.

(e) Central Pollution Control Board has asked the Prescribed Authority i.e. Delhi Pollution Control Committee to initiate action against defaulting healthcare facilities for non-compliance of the Bio-Medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules.

Free medical facilities to Helpless Aged

†3683. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to provide free medical facility to all the helpless aged males/females;

(b) through which agency - Government or Private, this would be implemented; and

(c) whether voluntary organizations would also be involved for better implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, in the Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres and Mobile Medicare Units, which are run by Non-Government Organisations and are provided ninety per cent funding by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, there are provisions for giving free medical and health care facilities to the older persons who avail the facilities provided by the said institutions. Each Old Age Home has a capacity for 25 persons, each Day Care Centre for 50 persons and each Mobile Medicare Unit can provide health care facilities for 400 older persons in a year.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.